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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Bradley Michael John Stringer

SERIAL NO.: 09/993,249 EXAMINER: Unassigned

FILED: November 14, 2001 ART UNIT: 3712

FOR: CHONDROCYTE CELL-LINES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being transmitted therewith) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 14, 2002

Catherine Roseman Smith
(Name)

C R Smith March 14, 2002
(Signature and Date)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please insert after page 22 the following Abstract of the Disclosure:

Abstract

The invention relates to chondrocytes and chondrocyte cell-lines for use especially in studying arthritic conditions and also for developing skeletal tissue for use in repair and/or replacement surgery, and the use of articular chondrocyte cell-lines which mineralize calcium to determine potentially beneficial therapeutic agents, and the means for producing such cell-lines, use of hypertrophic chondrocyte cell-lines to produce matrix tissue, and means of producing hypertrophic chondrocyte cell-lines.

REMARKS

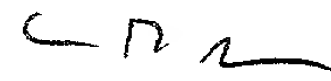
In response to a Notice to File Corrected Application Papers issued January 24, 2002, Applicants attach an Abstract for the above-referenced application. This Abstract is substantially the same as the Abstract which appears on the cover page of the application as filed, which application is the published text of patent publication PCT/GB95/02497. The Abstract has been revised in accordance with U.S. practice.

Attached hereto is a separate sheet containing the Abstract of the Disclosure.

No additional fee is believed to be necessitated by the foregoing amendment. However, should this be erroneous, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account No. 11-1153 for any underpayment, or credit any overages.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment. Early and favorable action on the pending set of claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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